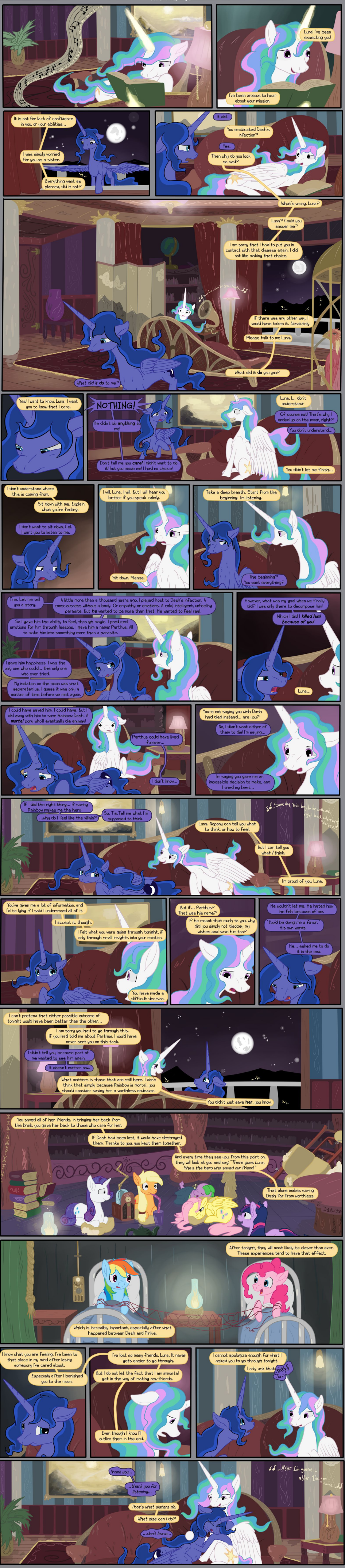
RECOVERY TO INSANITY

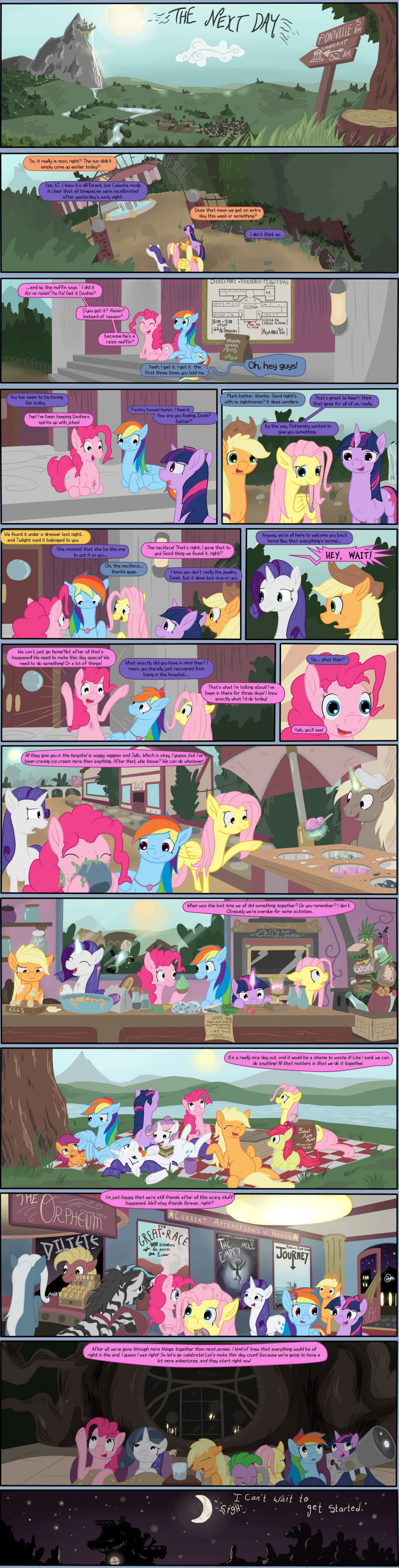
ISSUE NUMBER 101

Inspired by DARKJESTER'S original fanfiction ~ONE HUNDRED AND ONE~ -Adapted and illustrated entirely by SEVENTOZEN


Now won't you listen, dearie, while I say... How can you tell me you're going
Luna! I've been expecting you!
I've been anxious to hear about your mission.
It is not for lack of confidence in you, or your abilities...
I was simply worried for you as a sister.
Everything went as planned, did it not?
It did.
You eradicated Dash's infection?
Yes.
Then why do you look so sad?
What's wrong, Luna?
Luna? Could you answer me?
I am sorry that I had to put you in contact with that disease again. I did not like making that choice.
Some day... when you grow lonely...
If there was any other way, I would have taken it. Absolutely.
Please talk to me Luna.
What did it **do** you you?
*What did it **do** to me?*
Yes! I want to know, Luna. I want you to know that I care.
NOTHING!
He didn't do **anything** to me!
Don't tell me you **care**! I didn't want to do it! But you made me! I had no choice!
Luna, I... don't understand-
Of course not! That's why I ended up on the moon, right?!
You don't understand...
You didn't let me finish...
I don't understand where this is coming from.
Sit down with me. Explain what you're feeling.
I don't want to sit down, Cel. I want you to listen to me.
I will, Luna. I will. But I will hear you better if you speak calmly.
Sit down. Please.
Take a deep breath. Start from the beginning. I'm listening.
The beginning? You want everything?
Fine. Let me tell you a story.
A little more than a thousand years ago, I played host to Dash's infection. A consciousness without a body. Or empathy or emotions. A cold, intelligent, unfeeling parasite. But **he** wanted to be more than that. He wanted to feel real.
So I gave him the ability to feel, through magic. I produced emotions for him through lessons. I gave him a name: Parthus. All to make him into something more than a parasite.
I gave him happiness. I was the only one who could... the only one who ever tried.
My isolation on the moon was what separated us. I guess it was only a matter of time before we met again.
However, what was my goal when we finally did? I was only there to decompose him!
Which I did! I ***killed him! Because of you!***
Luna...
I could have saved him. I could have. But I did away with him to save Rainbow Dash. A ***mortal*** pony who'll eventually die anyway!
Parthus could have lived forever...
I don't know...
You're not saying you wish Dash had died instead... are you?
No, I didn't want either of them to die! I'm saying...
I'm saying you gave me an impossible decision to make, and I tried my best...
If I did the right thing... If saving Rainbow makes me the hero-
...why do I feel like the villain?
So, Tia. Tell me what I'm supposed to think.
Some day, You'll long to be with me, right back where we started...
Luna. Nopony can tell you what to think, or how to feel.
But I can tell you what *I* think.
I'm proud of you, Luna.
You've given me a lot of information, and I'd be lying if I said I understood all of it.
I accept it, though.
I felt what you were going through tonight, if only through small insights into your emotion.
You have made a difficult decision.
But if... Parthus? That was his name?
If he meant that much to you, why did you simply not disobey my wishes and save him too?
He wouldn't let me. He hated how he felt because of me.
"You'd be doing me a favor." His own words.
He... asked me to do it in the end.
I can't pretend that either possible outcome of tonight would have been better than the other...
I am sorry you had to go through this. If you had told me about Parthus, I would have never sent you on this task.
I didn't tell you, because part of me wanted to see him again.
It doesn't matter now.
What matters is those that are still here. I don't think that simply because Rainbow is mortal, you should consider saving her a worthless endeavor.
You didn't just save **her**, you know.
You saved all of her friends. In bringing her back from the brink, you gave her back to those who care for her.
If Dash had been lost, it would have destroyed them. Thanks to you, you kept them together.
And every time they see you, from this point on, they will look at you and say: "*There goes Luna. She's the hero who saved our friend.*"
That alone makes saving Dash far from worthless.
After tonight, they will most likely be closer than ever. These experiences tend to have that effect.
Which is incredibly important, especially after what happened between Dash and Pinkie.
I know what you are feeling. I've been to that place in my mind after losing somepony I've cared about.
Especially after I banished you to the moon.
I've lost so many friends, Luna. It never gets easier to go through.
But I do not let the fact that I am immortal get in the way of making new friends.
Even though I know I'll outlive them in the end.
I cannot apologize enough for what I asked you to go through tonight.
I only ask that-
sniff
'Tia?
Thank you...
...thank you for listening...
That's what sisters do.
What else can I do?
...don't leave...
...After I'm gone... after I've gone away...

ISSUE NUMBER
102
ONE HUNDRED AND TWO

Inspired by DARKJESTER'S original fanfiction — Adapted and illustrated entirely by SEVENTOZEN


THE NEXT DAY
PONYVILLE 5 KM
CANTERLOT 32 KM
So, it really is noon, right? The sun didn't simply come up earlier today?
Yes, AJ. I know it's different, but Celestia made it clear that all timepieces were recalibrated after yesterday's early night.
Does that mean we get an extra day this week or something?
I don't think so.
DIRECTORY
OR
RECEPTION
8:00 - 4:00 VISIT
22/8 EMERGENCY
YOU ARE HERE
CHECK IN PRIOR TO VISIT
Appt. ONLY 5's DAY
HOSPITAL GRADE PEAS
...and so the muffin says " I did it for no raisin!" Ha Ha! Get it Dashie?
D'you get it? Raisin? Instead of reason?
Because he's a raisin muffin?
Yeah, I get it. I got it the first three times you told me.
Oh, hey guys!
You two seem to be having fun today.
Yep! I've been keeping Dashie's spirits up with jokes!
Pastry based humor, I heard.
How are you feeling, Dash? Better?
Much better, thanks. Good night's with no nightmares? It does wonders.
That's great to hear! I think that goes for all of us, really.
By the way, Fluttershy wanted to give you something.
We found it under a dresser last night, and Twilight said it belonged to you.
She insisted that she be the one to put it on you...
Oh, the necklace... thanks guys.
The necklace! That's right, I gave that to you! Good thing we found it, right?
I know you don't really like jewelry, Dash. But it does look nice on you.
Anyway, we're all here to welcome you back home! Now that everything's normal...
HEY, WAIT!
We can't just go home! Not after all that's happened! We need to make this day special! We need to do something! Or a lot of things!
What exactly did you have in mind then? I mean, you literally just recovered from being in the hospital....
That's what I'm talking about! I've been in there for three days! I know exactly what I'd do today!
So... what then?
Heh, you'll see!
All they give you in the hospital is soggy veggies and Jello. Which is okay, I guess, but I've been craving ice cream more than anything. After that, who knows? We can do whatever!
When was the last time we all did something together? Do you remember? I don't. Obviously we're overdue for some activities.
Celly 200 BAKEMASTER
EGGS
FLOUR
BREAD
CRISPS
CUPCAKES RECEIPE
SERVES 20
It's a really nice day out, and it would be a shame to waste it! Like I said, we can do anything! All that matters is that we do it together.
Sweet Apple Acres
Cold press Cider
I'm just happy that we're still friends after all this scary stuff happened. We'll stay friends forever, right?
THE ORPHEUM
Cinema HOUSE
★CURRENT ATTRACTIONS in HOUSE★
THE GREAT•RACE
4000 kilometers
62 ponies
1 winner
THE EMPTY MILE
JOURNEY
PEAR and APPLE STUDIOS
After all, we've gone through more things together than most ponies. I kind of knew that everything would be all right in the end. I guess I was right! So let's go celebrate! Let's make this day count! Because we're going to have a lot more adventures, and they start right now!
-SIGH-
"I Can't wait to get Started."